

PLANARIZING MACHINES AND METHODS FOR DISPENSING PLANARIZING
SOLUTIONS IN THE PROCESSING OF MICROELECTRONIC WORKPIECES

ABSTRACT

Machines with solution dispensers and methods of using such machines for chemical-mechanical planarization and/or electrochemical - mechanical planarization/ deposition of microelectronic workpieces. One embodiment of such a machine includes a table having a support surface, a processing pad on the support surface, and a carrier assembly having a head configured to hold a microelectronic workpiece. The carrier assembly can further include a drive assembly that manipulates the head. The machine can also include a solution dispenser separate from the head. The solution dispenser can include a support extending over the pad and a fluid discharge unit or distributor carried by the support. The fluid discharge unit is configured to discharge a planarizing solution onto a plurality of separate locations across the pad.